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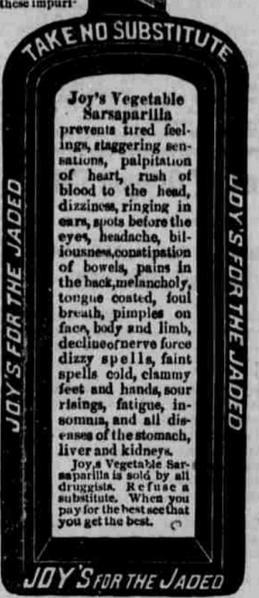
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OUR SISTER STATES

INTERESTING NEWS NOTES FROM VARIOUS PLACES.

The Great Northwest Furnishes Some News of More Than General Interest—Development and Progress in all Industries—Oregon.

Weston has voted an 8-mill school tax. The Ashland school district has made a tax levy of 11 1/2 mills.

Stella Finley, a 13-year-old girl of Pendleton committed suicide by taking a dose of strychnine.

R. E. Williams, of The Dalles, made an assignment Monday for the benefit of his creditors, without preference to any.

A Prineville merchant says business has been better there this winter than for any winter during the last eight years.

Frank Kelly was fined \$50 by Judge Stowe, at Umatilla, for having deer meat in his possession during the close season.

The contract for the Ashland-Klamath-Falls mail service has been let to S. T. Proffit, of Floyd, Va., for \$2,640 per annum.

An effort is to be made to clear out the recently formed drift near Junction City, which has put a stop to river navigation there.

Complaint has been made by the fruit raisers in the vicinity of Columbus that orchards in that section are badly infested with the scale.

Crozier Bros. & Co., of Dallas, shipped about 800 bales of hops to London last week. The hops were from Luckiamute, Independence and Dallas.

A band of Oregon horses, in transit to Kentucky, a few days ago, says the Hailey Times, was taken from the cars at Shoshone and the animals sold for 50 cents apiece.

The total tax levy for Columbia county is 27 mills, as follows: State, 7 1/2 mills, school tax, 5 mills; county, 17 1/2 mills, and indigent sailors' relief fund, 1.80 mills.

The North Yamhill and Tillamook toll road has been sold by George F. Burton to Joseph and Benjamin Huston, of Lafayette, and the purchasers will soon take possession.

The people of Cornelius want electric lights in their town and have made a proposition to the Forest Grove council that they be supplied with power from the plants at the Grove.

The Eureka and Excelsior mines in the Cracker Creek district, produced in 1895 \$120,000. The concentrators were sent to Tacoma, and, of course, added to Washington's annual output.

The Thursday Afternoon Club of Pendleton claims the honor of being the first new woman's club organized in Oregon. It will celebrate the end of the third year of its work this week.

Coo's county's levy this year is 22 mills, divided as follows: For state purposes, 4.8 mills; for county, 13; for schools, 4.2. The county paid out for the relief of indigent persons, between April 1, 1895, and January 1, 1896, \$2,592.80.

An appeal to the supreme court is being perfected in the case of Francis Clarno, assignee of the Portland Mining Company, vs. George W. Grayson. The case involves the title to the Virtue mine, and \$50,000 damages. An appeal bond has been filed.

A freight train killed five horses above Baker City last week. One of the horses caught under the pilot and was pushed along on the rail a distance of two miles before it was discovered. It was by the merest good fortune that the train escaped being derailed.

Pendleton, says the Tribune, is beginning to put on metropolitan airs. It has a \$40,000 insurance case on trial, a doctor charged with manslaughter, a new woolen mill, an electric power plant, and two of its married women mysteriously disappeared last week.

The Baker City Democrat says that in the Mount, a group consisting of six claims located in the Virtue district, owned by Captain Isidor Fuoch and George Reynolds, a strong four-foot ledge of high free-milling ore, averaging over \$25 per ton, was struck in the shaft at a thirty-foot depth.

The board of regents of the Oregon agricultural college has appointed a committee to arrange for the addition of a school of mines to that institution. This was done to avail the state of the provision to be made by congress that such schools shall receive a per cent of the money arising from the sale of mineral lands in each state.

Washington.
The winter school for farmers has commenced at the state agricultural college at Pullman.

Frank H. Sanborn, a carpenter, was thrown from a horse in Everett and received injuries from which he died soon after.

About 100 families of Polanders are on the way to the Willapa valley. About half of them expect to settle at Holcomb, and the others at Pe-Ell.

Mrs. Ellen Gilliam Day, of Walla Walla, is preparing to write a book of sketches of pioneer life in the Northwest. For several years Mrs. Day has been collecting material.

The commissioners of Walla Walla county have bought 2,105 ounces of strychnine for \$3,000. It will be distributed among the farmers, who will use it on the peaky squirrels.

The trustees of the normal school at New Whatcom have practically decided to substitute light brick in the

construction of the building, if it can be done without in any way invalidating the contract. The legal point involved will first be submitted to the attorney-general, or his assistant.

The St. Helens Mining Company will spend \$20,000 on its mines in the St. Helens district this summer, and a number of other companies will develop their properties.

The Pacific Coast Trading Company reports having shipped from Fairhaven during 1895 nearly 300,000 pounds of fresh fish, for which the fishermen received nearly \$7,000. The principal shipments were of silver and steelhead salmon, although there were a good many pounds of smelt and herring included, and 40,000 pounds of halibut.

The Chehalis Nugget says there is a scheme on foot to have the southern row of townships in Lewis county set over into Cowlitz county and the Lewis river county given to Clark county.

A demurrer to the complaint has been sustained by the court in the suit brought by Prosecuting Attorney Rupert, of Jefferson county, to test the legality of county bonds amounting to \$250,000.

Weist Bros., of Wahkiakum county, the past season put in 7,150,000 feet of fir logs with one team (seven yoke) of cattle, and a donkey engine. The engine did all the road work and the cattle the yarding.

Henry Bachman died at St. Mary's hospital in Walla Walla last week. He was born in Germany in 1831, and was one of the earliest settlers of the Walla Walla valley, having moved there early in the '50s.

The Canaday ranch and mill near Ellensburg, has passed into the hands of T. W. Enos, vice-president of the Metropolitan Savings bank, of Tacoma, who will see that the property is placed on a producing basis.

Professor Penrose, who has just returned from the East, brought back with him a relic, which has been given to Whitman college. It is the letter bag, or valise, which Dr. Samuel Parker and Marcus Whitman brought across the continent in the year 1835.

Captain Henry Finch, of the Lake Michigan life-saving service, with a diving apparatus of his own invention, and a canvas boat, is exploring the bottom of the Columbia and Okanogan rivers for placer mines. He claims to have a pump that will pump gravel and even boulders to the weight of sixteen pounds.

The Great Northern carshops in Hill-yard have received an order to build twenty-five box cars, Washington lumber to be used exclusively, and all of the cars to be fitted with the latest air-brake appliances. All the cars on this end of the road will be fitted with air-brakes. There are nearly 200 men working at the shops.

Prosecuting Attorney Rupert, of Jefferson county, has refused to withdraw the complaint filed by him to test the validity of the Jefferson county bond issue, in response to the resolutions of the board of trade and taxpayers denouncing the proposed suit. Mr. Rupert claims to be confident of winning the suit, although the taxpayers have not changed their attitude in regard to the possible repudiation as a result of the suit.

Idaho.
Michael Fallert, of Howe, Bingham county, has been granted an original pension.

At Medford David Mulvy shot and instantly killed H. Roden. They had a dispute about an old account.

The new machinery for the hoisting plant for the A. D. & M. Company has arrived at Gibbonsville and will be put in place at once.

Now that a sale of the Black Hornet mine will not take place, the owners have decided to erect a milling plant and hereafter work the property themselves.

The Christian Endeavorers held a union meeting at Moscow to commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the order. Six hundred were present.

The postoffice at Juniper, Owyhee county, has been discontinued, and mail for that office, which was a special one, must hereafter be forwarded to Castle Creek.

The wheat elevator of J. R. Collins, at Julietta, has been destroyed by fire. It contained about 50,000 bushels of wheat, only a small portion of which was insured. The fire was of incendiary origin.

A shipment of twenty tons of ore from the Silver Stake mine, near Salmon City, has been shipped to Denver as a test. If the results are satisfactory a milling plant will be put in next spring to treat the output of this mine.

The city council of Moscow adopted a resolution ordering that a demand be made upon the county assessor for the amount held back for the collecting of city taxes. In case he refuses to turn over the amount, which he claims in the nature of fees, the city attorney is to bring suit.

Montana.
Bozeman has just harvested a fine crop of ice.

Billings' pork packing establishment is in running order.

Arizona was first in the market with this season's oranges, beating California by a week or so.

Tom Maxwell, of Anaconda, is missing. His body is supposed to be at the bottom of a mining shaft.

Work in and around the mines of Harvey creek is progressing rapidly, and there are sixty men employed at the Golden Scepter properties. The site for the new mill has not as yet been selected, but it now seems certain that it will contain at least 100 stamps.

AGRICULTURAL NEWS

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR THE FARMER.

Promising Results From Close Root Pruning, a New Idea Advanced by J. H. Stringfellow, of Texas—Lodging of Oats—Notes.

That "nothing succeeds like success" is a statement that is fully applicable to the severe shortening in process of both roots and tops, which the most progressive of our modern orchardists are now adopting. H. M. Stringfellow, near Galveston, Texas, is the pioneer in heralding the advent of this new method. The successful result of the system as demonstrated by Mr. J. H. Hale near Fort Valley, Ga., in planting his great 100,000-peach-tree orchard, is a new revelation in horticulture. It is an entire reversal of the old-time idea that the more roots a tree has when reset, the better.

The old idea of the very best method of transplanting is that of taking up a tree with its roots entire. The new idea is exactly the reverse.

Mr. Stringfellow's method of pruning is this: Hold tree, top down, and cut back to about one inch. This cut will face down when tree is set. Leave only from one to three feet of top. Let all shoots grow. When one foot in length, rub off all that are not needed for a symmetrical top. Mr. Stringfellow suggests that the state experiment stations take up and test the matter. Plant some with more stubs of roots, from one-half inch to 5, 10, 15 and 20-inch lengths, to be taken up and examined each year, so as to demonstrate the fact that "beyond the length of two or three inches the quantity size of the new roots are invariably in an inverse ratio to the amount of old roots left on. The longer the old roots are the weaker will be the new ones."

Heavy Seeding of Oats.
The American Agriculturist says that lodging of oats is due to the imperfect development of the tissues of the stem, and this is the result of an insufficient exposure to sunlight in consequence of the plants being too close together. The greatest exposure will doubtless be secured by moderately thin sowing. It is usually considered that the quantity of seed per acre should vary with the condition of the land and the time of sowing, a great quantity being sown when the land is in poor condition, and when the season is late. A greater quantity of seed is required on poor land, as the oats do not "stool out" so well, and in a late season it is necessary to increase the amount in order to hasten the harvest, as, where the land is thinly sown, the "stooling" process is liable to be carried on for too long a time, making the harvest late. In England, as high as eight bushels per acre of oats are often sown, in other-year tests that quantity of seed yielding on an average of forty-three bushels per acre; six bushels, fifty-three; and four bushels seed yielding an average of forty-three bushels per acre, other things being equal. In America, four bushels per acre is usually considered heavy seeding for oats, and one and one-half to two bushels is the amount usually sown.

How to Begin Farming.
Let one purchase hens of the common mongrel stock, says a writer in an agricultural paper, which can always be got quite cheaply, and with these hens mate a purely-bred male of the variety desired to breed into. In the autumn carefully select the strongest and best-developed pullets, still retaining the former male bird. Select only those pullets which are robust and perfectly healthy in every respect, and strongly marked in form, color and general characteristics of the breed represented by their sire. Mate this second crop of pullets to an unrelated sire and the resulting generation will be equal to thoroughbred stock of that breed for all practical purposes in laying and marketing qualities.

Declining Rapidly.
The failure of owners to breed mares during the past two years is emphasized by a decline of 8 per cent in total numbers on the farm. This decline would be still greater but for the failure of the ordinary demand for low grade animals for city work, so that an urban census would disclose a decrease in numbers in addition to the farm decrease measured here. The most striking feature regarding horses, however, which is brought out by this investigation is the decline in the average value per head, amounting to \$7.50, or nearly 18 per cent in a year.

Notes.
New Orleans, according to the reports of the Illinois Central railroad, has shipped more corn to foreign ports in the past five or six weeks than has New York.

J. D. Woodruff, of Wyoming, one of the largest wool-growers in the country, thinks the best cross for the range is the Shropshire ram on the large California Merino ewe.

Minister Buchanan, of Argentina, cables in reply to an inquiry about the wheat condition that it is unfavorable owing to excessive rains, and estimates the exportable surplus at 30,000,000 bushels.

The National Provisioner of New York, says that within the past month a new industry has been established between this country and Cuba. On each outgoing steamer to the island large quantities of live poultry have been shipped from that city, the war there having engaged the attention of the people so that they neglected attending to poultry-raising.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Potatoes continue to arrive in large quantities for shipment to San Francisco. The next two steamers will carry about 20,000 sacks. The California market is steadily declining, and it is predicted that the receipt of these large lots from Oregon will completely break the market. The shipments are being made by growers against the advice of dealers. Business in the produce market is only moderate.

Wheat Market.
The local market is weak, with a lower tendency. Trading is reported quiet. Exporters quote Walla Walla wheat at 50 1/2 @ 60c and Valley at 63c per bushel.

Produce Market.
FLOUR—Portland, Salem, Cascade and Dayton, are quoted at \$3.00 per barrel; Goldrop, \$2.95; Snowflake, \$3.05; Benton county, \$3.00; Graham, \$2.50; superfine, \$2.15.

OATS—Good white are quoted weak, at 24c; milling, 23@30c; gray, 19@21c. Rolled oats are quoted as follows: Bags, \$4.25@5.25; barrels, \$4.50@7.00; cases, \$3.75.

HAY—Timothy, \$9.00 per ton; chest, \$8.00; clover, \$8@7; oat, \$5@6.50; wheat, \$5.50@6.50.

BARLEY—Feed barley, \$14.50 per ton; brewing, nominal.

MILLET—Bran, \$12.50; shorts, \$18; middlings, \$18@18.50; rye, 75@80c per cental.

BUTTER—Fancy creamery is quoted at 50c; fancy dairy, 40c; fair to good, 35c; common, 17c per roll.

POTATOES—New Oregon, 35@45c per sack; sweets, common, 3 1/2c; Mercers, 2 1/2c per pound.

ORONS—Oregon, 75@81c per sack.

POULTRY—Chickens, hens, \$2.50@3 per dozen; mixed, \$2.25@2.50 per dozen; ducks, \$5.00@6; geese, \$8.00; turkeys, live, 9@10c per pound; dressed 12 1/2c.

EGGS—Oregon, 11c per dozen.

CHEESE—Oregon full cream, 12@12 1/2c per pound; half cream, 9 1/2c; skim, 4@5c; Young America, 10@11c.

TROPICAL FRUIT—California lemons, \$3.50@4.00; choice, \$3.00@3.50; Sicily, \$4.00; bananas, \$1.75@2.50 per bunch; California navel, \$2.50@3.00 per box; pineapples, \$4@5.00 per dozen.

OREGON VEGETABLES—Cabbage, 1 1/2c per lb; garlic, new, 8@10c per pound; artichokes, 85c per dozen; sprouts, 5c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.75 per crate, 40c@41c per dozen; hot-house lettuce, 25c per dozen.

FRESH FRUIT—Pears, Winter Nellis, \$1.50 per box; cranberries, \$11@11 per barrel; fancy apples, \$1@1.50; common, 50@75c per box.

DRIED FRUITS—Apples, evaporated, bleached, 4@4 1/2c; sun-dried, 3 1/2@4c; pears, sun and evaporated, 5@6c plums, pitless, 3@4c; prunes, 3@5c per pound.

WOOL—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8 1/2c.

HOPS—Choice, Oregon 4@6c per pound; medium, neglected.

NUTS—Almonds, soft shell, 9@11c per pound; paper shell, 10@12 1/2c; new crop California walnuts, soft shell, 11@12 1/2c; standard walnuts, 12@13c; Italian chestnuts, 12 1/2@14c; pecans, 14@15c; Brazil, 12 1/2@13c; almonds, 14@15c; peanuts, raw, fancy, 6@7c; roasted, 10c; hickory nuts, 8@10c; coconuts, 80c per dozen.

FACTORIES—Eastern hams, medium, 11 1/2@12c per pound; hams, picnic, 7c; breakfast, bacon 10 1/2@10 3/4c; short clear sides, 8 1/2@9c; dry salt sides, 7 1/2@8c; dried beef hams, 12@13c; lard, compound, in tins, 7 1/2c; lard, pure, in tins, 9 1/2@10c; pigs' feet, 80c, \$3.50; pigs' feet, 40c, \$3.25; kits, \$1.25. Oregon smoked hams, 10 1/2c per pound; pickled hams, 8c; boneless hams, 7 1/2c; bacon, 10 1/2c; dry salt sides, 8 1/2c; lard, 5-pound pails, 7 1/2c; 10s, 7 1/2c; 5s, 7 1/2c; tallow, 7c. Country meats sell at prices according to grade.

HIDES—Dry hides, butcher, sound, per pound, 11@12c; dry kip and calf-skin, 10@11c; culls, 3c less; salted, 60 lb and over, 5c; 50 to 60 lbs, 4@4 1/2c; 40 and 50, 4c; kip and veal skins, 10 to 30 lbs, 4c; calf-skin, sound, 3 to 10 lbs, 6c; green, unskinned, 1c less; culls, 1-2c less; sheepskins, shearlings, 10@15c; short wool, 20@30c; medium, 30@40c; long wool, 50@70c.

RICE—Island, \$4.50@5 per sack; Japan, \$4.00@4.50.

Merchandise Market.
SALMON—Columbia, river No. 1, talls, \$1.25@1.60; No. 2, talls, \$2.25@2.50; fancy, No. 1, flats, \$1.75@1.85; Alaska, No. 1, talls, \$1.20@1.30; No. 2, talls, \$1.90@2.25.

BRAMS—Small white, No. 1, 2 1/2c per pound; butter, 8c; bayon, 1 1/2c; Lima, 4c.

CORDAGE—Manilla rope, 1 1/2-inch, is quoted at 8 1/2c, and Sisal, 6 1/2c per pound.

BAGS—Calcutta, 4 1/2c.

SUGAR—Golden C, 4 1/2c; extra C, 4 1/2c; dry granulated, 5 1/2c; cube crushed and powdered, 6 1/2c per pound; 1/2c per pound discount on all grades for prompt cash; half barrels, 1/2c more than barrels; maple sugar, 15@16c per pound.

COFFEES—Costa Rica, 22@23 1/2c; Rio, 20@22c; Salvador, 21@22c; Moccha, 20@31c; Padang Java, 30c; Palembang Java, 25@26c; Lahat Java, 23@25c; Arabella's Mokka and Lion, \$21.80 per 100-pound case; Columbia, \$21.30 per 100-pound case.

COAL—Steady; domestic, \$5.00@7.50 per ton; foreign, \$8.50@11.00.

Meat Market.
BEEF—Gross, top steers, \$3.25; cows, \$2.25@2.50; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2c per pound.

MUTTON—Gross, best sheep, wethers, \$2.75; ewes, \$1.50@2.25; dressed mutton, 4c per pound.

VEAL—Gross, small, 5@6c; large, 3@4c per pound.

HOGS—Gross, choice, heavy, \$3.00@3.40; light and feeders, \$1.50@2.75; dressed, 3 1/2@4c per pound.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.
FLOUR—Net cash prices: Family extra, \$4.00@4.10 per barrel; bakers' extra, \$3.80@3.90; superfine, \$2.56@3.10.

BARLEY—Feed, fair to good, 7 1/2c; choice, 7 1/2c; brewing, 80@82 1/2c.

WHEAT—Spring No. 1, \$1.18 1/2; choice, \$1.15; milling, \$1.25@1.30.

OATS—Milling, 7 1/2@8 1/2c; surprise, 95@11; fancy feed, 8 1/2@8 7/8; good to choice, 75@82 1/2c; poor to fair, 65@72 1/2c; gray, 7 1/2@8 1/2c.

HOPS—Quotable at 4 1/2c per pound.

POTATOES—Sweets, \$2.00@2.25; Burtons, Oregon, 50@70c.